

Thursday, July 16, 2009

From Lydhurst to Adelaide ... With Stops!

It was a long day yesterday! We finally left Lydhurst at around 10 a.m. or so after much consultation! We were headed back to Adelaide but had several detours to make. The most important one was to Brachina Gorge through the Flinders Ranges. This was spectacular country. The geology of the whole area is so clear - a very visual experience. It is worth checking out the map for the Flinders Ranges and finding Brachina Gorge. The folded mountains lurch over the top of each other and in one place it is actually totally inverted. The sedimentary layers are vibrant colours and very very clear. The force that has come from the south east and pushed these hills over as they butt up against the ancient continent of the original Australian line, is beyond comprehension but that is what the Flinders are.

The geologist who accompanied us (Vic Gostin) was the man who actually discovered the meteorite that landed 300km towards West Australia. he found the remnants of the volcano it landed in in an area of the Flinders that is totally sedimentary. By a wonderful forensic process he established that the foreign rock belonged 300 km away and that the meteorite that had landed had caused such an event that it would have wiped out most known life at that stage... phew! What a discovery! This is the calibre of people who have accompanied us...

Now....that I have imparted all that information.. you wonderful people in Years 7,8, and 9 at Campania need to research a problem for me and have the answer when I come back next week.

Chocolates for the best explanation!!!! You old folk can have a go too!

Anyway, after the odd stop for food food and more food, and such we finally crawled into Adelaide very late last night. We had a great convoy going - all 6 NASA cars in line. Many locals seemed rather concerned when we first came out of the desert then each time we stopped we received curious stares!!! Never mind.... we loved it!

Have some pics of the line ... and we stuck an Australian flag on our car - just fun!

Conference from today onwards... might get in some shopping if i am lucky - pressies all round!!!(well maybe not).

Liz Ryan